

December
2025

PROBUS NEWS

The Probus Club of Burnie



Fun, Fellowship, Friendship



A Word from the President

Hello Gentleman,

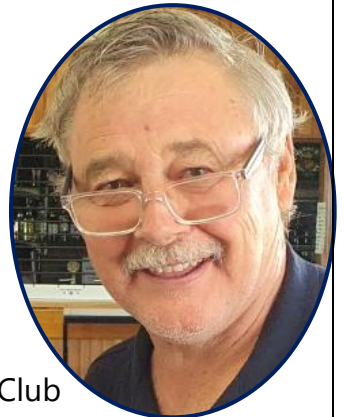
Do you agree with me that the Probus Calendar Year seems to have passed in the blink of an eye? What a busy year it has been, but that is a topic for another day. The Summer Season has arrived and Christmas is fast approaching. I am hoping the Weather Gods will intervene, and put an end to what has been an exceedingly squally and windy Spring; let the sunshine and warmth burst forth in time for the festive season!

We have started the weekly Tuesday night dinners at the Burnie Bowls Club and I urge members to join us either regularly or occasionally; it is also a great way to enjoy small group social interaction and introduce a potential member. The meals are excellent value and quality, servings are generous and a doggy bag may be required. A call/text to Tim (0498 012 757) if you are coming would be helpful but not essential.

By the time you read this, our Christmas Luncheon will have come and gone. I hope the photos included in this newsletter reflect a great day on this important event on our calendar. The presentation of the Chain of Office as our gift to the Penguin Probus club is a wonderful and enduring gesture, just as the Somerset Rotary Club did for our Club almost 43 years ago.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your attendance and contribution to our club during the year. May you all have a Joyous and safe Christmas with family and friends, and may 2026 be healthy, happy, and rewarding. Our next regular Probus Meeting will be held on Monday January 19th. At that meeting we will discuss our "first car", so please give that topic some thought. Season's Greetings and Best Wishes Always.

David



From Burnie Probus to Penguin Probus ...

With great pride, Burnie Probus presented Penguin Probus with their Presidential Chain of Office.

President David made the presentation to Karen O'Reilly whose response was greeted with enthusiastic applause. The Mayor of the City of Burnie, Teeny Brumby added her sincere congratulations.

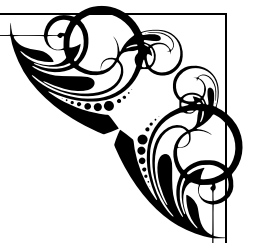
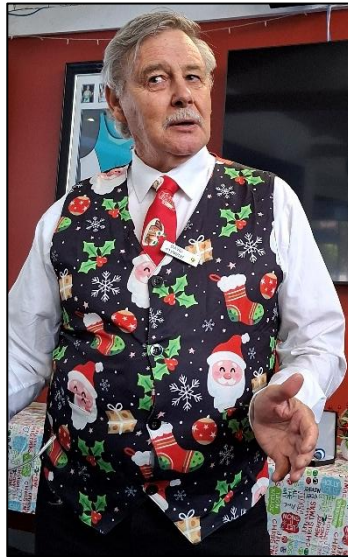


Christmas Luncheon

President David, resplendent in his Christmas waistcoat, introduced the lucky door-prize – a lanky Christmas elf, who went home with lucky Rod Jordan.



Guest of Honour
Teeny Brumby,
Mayor of Burnie,
responded to
President David's
welcome by
speaking highly of
Probus, followed
by her proposal of
a toast to Probus.



Club Meeting in November

Twenty-six members attended an enjoyable and informative meeting in November. President David displayed a Certificate of Recognition from PSP for our club's sponsorship of our neighbouring Penguin Probus Club, followed by a congratulatory video address from Michael Ransom, Chairman of Probus South Pacific. Birthdays in November and December: Rod Jordan, Peter Moore and Damian Bissett.

Club Speaker Tim McCarthy explained the recent changes to My Age Care. He discussed the revised classifications of care packages, the services available and their charge-rates; he looked into users' contribution rates and pointed out the value of making comparisons. Tim urged us all to register with My Age Care, because registration is required for every service, including Community Transport, which is frequently used for hospital visits away from the North West. Because 100,000 people are presently awaiting an assessment, delays must be expected. But assessment is essential, and, once a package is approved, a wait of a year is experienced by those needing a homecare package. Tim dealt with many questions before morning tea intervened.



Guest Speaker was Vanessa Skipworth, General Manager of the Tasmanian Minerals, Mining, Manufacturing and Energy Council, which is made up of members whose businesses are involved in this field. The prime function of the Council is to advocate on behalf of industry to government. It further sponsors workforce development by encouraging innovation and by supporting the retention of skills in the sector. The Council conducts a public education campaign



via television the social media and its website. It has named this campaign, *Opening the Hearts and Minds*. Recent initiatives of the Council include its Pre-employment Course at Mountain Heights High school, its Inclusion and Diversity programme, its broad Career Awareness Programme across Tasmania's schools and its comprehensive Mentoring Programme for employees in the sector. Vanessa dealt with many questions and concluded by inviting those interested, to visit the Council's headquarters in Burnie.

The Coffee Club rolls on

Those coffee lovers in our club come out for their soothing cup on the second Thursday of every month.



Rex sees indulgence!



Rod is innocent.



Sam's questions are tough.



Thoughtful Probians!

*Next Coffee morning will be Thursday, January 8th
at Delish. See you there!*

A Message from the Mayor

Community groups like yours have the power to bring people together, creating connections that counter loneliness and build a stronger, more supportive community. In today's world, where so many feel isolated, the role of these groups cannot be overstated they provide a sense of belonging, shared purpose, and the opportunity to make meaningful contributions to the lives of others. It's this kind of togetherness that we should celebrate and nurture, as it's at the heart of what makes our community thrive. I am so indebted to you, our Burnie Probus Club, for the incredible impact you make in ensuring people are cared for and have a true sense of belonging.
Teeny Brumby, Mayor of Burnie.



For your Diary ...

Thursday, January 8th: **Coffee** at Delish, 10:00 am.

Monday, January 19th: **January Meeting** at McKenna Park at 10:00 am.

Club Speaker: Ian Broad – *A trip around Australia in 1982.*

Guest Speaker: Peter Ansell – *AI: Will it kill us all??*

Thursday, January 29th: **Lunch** at Ember & Vines, 12:00 for 12:30.